

PRICE. \$2 PER MONTH.

PRICE. \$2 PER MONTH.

Shipping.

Steamers.

THE CHINA & MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR MANILA (DIRECT)

The Co's Steamship
Emeralda,
Captain **TAYLOR**, will be
despatched for the above
Port on **MONDAY**, the 23rd Inst., at 4 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
RUSSELL & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, May 20, 1887. 967

**CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY,
LIMITED.**

**FOR PORT DARWIN, SYDNEY AND
MELBOURNE.**

The Co's Chartered
Steamship
Port Victor,
Commander
WILLIAMS, Commander
will be despatched as above on **TUESDAY**
the 24th Inst., at 4 p.m.

The attention of Passengers is directed
to the superior Accommodation offered by

atched as above c
stant. at Dayligh

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, May 19, 1887. 95

FOR NAGASAKI AND KOBE.

The Steamship
"Strathglen,"
C. W. PEARSON, Com-
mander, will be despatch-
ed for the above Ports on WEDNESDAY
the 25th Instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
ADAMSON, BELL & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, May 18, 1887. 96

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN LLOYD'S

STEAM FC

SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO
BOMBAY, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT
SAID, BRINDISI AND TRIESTE.
(Taking Cargo at through rates to CA
CUTTA, MADRAS, PERSIAN
GULF, BLACK SEA, LEVANT and
ADRIATIC PORTS.)
The Co.'s Steamship
"Ticonderoga"
Captain G. MERRA,
will be despatched as ab
on Friday, the 27th Instant, at Noon
For further Particulars, regarding Freights
and Passages, apply to the Master of
Company, P&O. General.
O. BACHRACH,
Agent.
Hongkong, May 18, 1887.
SHIRE LINE OF STEAMERS.
FOR YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.
The Steamship

will be
the first on the 25th

the above ports on the *arrived* and
For Freight or Passage, apply to
ADAMSON, BELL & Co
Agents.
Hongkong, May 16, 1887.

NOTICE.
COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES
MARITIMES.
PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS

The Co.'s Steamship
Tanais,
Commandant **P**
will be despatched
KOBE and YOKOHAMA shortly after
arrival of the Mail Steamer from Europe.
G. DE CHAMPEAUX
Agent.
Hongkong, May 17, 1887.

NOTICE
COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES
MARITIMES.
PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS

The Co.'s Steamship
Oceanien,
Commandant **D**
will be despatched
SHANGHAI shortly after her arrival
Europe.
G. DE CHAMPEAUX
Agent.
Hongkong, May 17, 1887.

Insurances.
LUBECK FIRE INSURANCE
COMPANY.

GENERAL AGENTS
are prepared to a

FIRE at Current Rates.
SCHEELE &
Hongkong, May 20, 1897.
LANCAOSHIRE INSURANCE
COMPANY.
(FIRE AND LIFE).
CAPITAL—TWO MILLIONS STERLING.

THE Undersigned are prepared to
POLICES against the Risk of FIRE
Buildings or on Goods stored there.
Goods on board Vessels and on H
Vessels in Harbour, at the usual
and Conditions.

Proposals for Life Assurance will
be received, and transmitted to the Di
rectors for their decision.

If required, protection will be granted
first class Lives up to £1000 on a
Life.

For Rates of Premiums, forms
and for any other information, apply
to
ARNOLD, KARBERG &
Agents, Hongkong & Canton.
Hongkong, January 4, 1897.

THE Slinger Opera Co. will appear

'FRAGRANT WATERS' MURMUR.
That the Jubilee celebration in Hongkong will, after all, be saved from failure, mainly by the quiet influence of a quiet member of the Government.

That the 'fete and general rejoicings' will now be held, and, notwithstanding the country 'lies of opposition,' the status of Her Majesty is likely to be erected.

That the date of the general rejoicings nearly everywhere is confined to the last week in June, and that the 9th of November is generally regarded here as too far off.

That the Committee to be named by the Government will probably fix the 21st of June as the date.

That if one may judge from precedents, the status may not be set up for two or three years.

That the celebration of the Queen's Birthday bids fair to be more of a success than usual, as the Governor and the General are working hard in hand.

That it is rumored the Acting Governor intends to push through several administrative measures that have been hanging fire of late, and that he will earn the hearty thanks of the community if he succeeds.

That if Acting Governor Cameron will only distinguish between immediate necessities and future possibilities, the sanitation of the Colony ought to be made rapid strides during his administration.

That when residents are awakened in the night by the killing stench of a drain 'blooms off,' it looks as if something should be done to avert life during the summer months.

That the Acting Governor's activity may preclude any reason for the Legislative Council this year.

That voluminous documents have lately been published in the Straits papers in reference to the Colonial and Indian Exhibition and the Straits exhibitors thereof.

That the same thing does not seem to happen here, and the Exhibition affairs continue in a very nebulous condition.

That many of the exhibits have never been heard of since they were dispersed.

That the local Guarantees Fund is said to have been indifferently audited, and that some of the guarantors have paid more than their fair share of the cost.

That the 'noisy-arrange' interview of Sir John Pope Hennessy bears a family likeness to George Bowen's communication to the London & China Express.

That the language credited to Sir John leads to the inference that he has given up all hopes of further employment from the Colonial Office.

That Sir John is evidently of opinion that Hongkong taxpayers have not paid enough even yet for military contribution and fortifications, and that taxpayers here must feel duly grateful for his opinion.

That his ideas of native armies of defence in Hongkong and Mauritius are more amusing than hurtful, and that he would probably aim these levies with the improved Hongkong market of historical memory!

That the papers in Singapore are growing because their new Municipal bill threatens to reduce the general powers of the Municipality, while it provides for an increase of taxation.

That Hongkong would be glad of the opportunity of experimenting with a Municipal Board, now that nearly every trace of the municipal element has been eliminated from the Public Health Bill.

That the 'Municipal Board of Health' has had its name changed back quietly to the 'Sanitary Board,' and that its Chairman is not known to have shed a tear over the incident.

That some (fortunately only some) of the published accounts of the wreck of the ill-fated *Tasmania* might be described in nautical language as having been saturated with a sprinkling of malice, or poisoned by an underflow of venom.

That these remarks, if even in the remotest degree justifiable, were entirely premature, and have no doubt caused much regret to many in China who held the late Captain Perring deservedly in high esteem.

That it is generally believed—and there exists good and strong grounds for the belief—that the British Volunteers are quite capable of protecting themselves against any enemy; but the question arises, Can they protect themselves against their friends?

That a Dover War Correspondent, present at the late manoeuvres has done his best to cast contempt and ridicule upon a most patriotic body by relating, in an ill-connected mixture of blather, blather and cynicism, how H.R.H. the F.M. remained perfectly calm under a continuous and concentrated fire.

That for having omitted to add the words 'of blank cartridge' this scribbler ought to have been had up before a drum-head Court-martial, and condemned to undergo the sanitary and salutary operation of tarring and feathering.

That, speaking of Volunteers, reminds me that it may be the fortunate lot of Acting Governor Cameron to give fresh life and renewed prosperity to our local Corps.

That I am glad to learn that the local Insurance Office have resolved to calmly wait and to discreetly watch the aggressive movements of the grasping Home Companies.

That the Stock Market generally is sick, from the reaction of feverish speculations, but that the steady-going investors have no occasion for despair.

BROWNIE.

THE NEW OPIUM ORDINANCE.

SANCTION OF THE GOVERNMENT TO ANTI-SMUGGLING.

A circular issued by the Clerk of Councils this morning announces that His Excellency the Acting Governor has received a telegram from the Secretary of State for the Colonies approving of the proposals in connection with the Opium Bill; and a meeting of the Legislative Council has been summoned for Monday afternoon at four o'clock, to consider the second reading of an Ordinance for the better regulating of the trade in Opium.

A copy of the amended bill was forwarded along with the circular, and so far as we can see all the modifications proposed by the wholesale and retail opium dealers have been introduced. In effect these modifications are as follow:

The prohibition against the dealing in quantities less than one chest has been removed; and licences may now be granted by the Colonial Treasurer empowering the holder to deal in any quantities less than one chest, but not less than one ball of Bengal opium or three catties of Malwa, Persian, or Turkish opium. No other persons than those holding licences shall be allowed to have or deal in quantities less than one chest. This meets the wishes of the retail dealers whose Council pictured such a narrowing scope of the desolation of Hongkong if the original provisions were persisted in. Then in the present bill, the powers of inspection are transferred from the Opium Farmer to the Harbour Master. It was insinuated by the wholesale dealers that if the powers of enquiry into the quantity of their purchases were conferred upon the Opium Farmer, himself a wholesale dealer, the Farmer would exercise his rights in such a vexatious manner as to cause extreme irritation, if he did not even use the information he thus obtained for the furtherance of his own interests at the expense of those of the dealers. They suggested therefore that these powers should be transferred to the Harbour Master, a British official in whom they could place reliance. These are the principal and really the only substantial amendments to the Bill, and as they meet all the demands put forward by those in the trade, the bill when it comes up for consideration should meet with no objection on that score.

The preamble and sections 1 and 2, dealing with construction and interpretation, remain unaltered. Section 3, which formerly prohibited the import or export of quantities less than one chest, now reads: "No person shall import or export any quantity of opium, whether in bulk or in packages, except as hereinafter provided." This removes the threatened interference with the opium trade by junks; and the Chinese opium dealer, being assured that his goods will be sold as well as held in the colony. This removes the threatened interference with the opium trade by junks; and the Chinese opium dealer, being assured that his goods will be sold as well as held in the colony. This removes the threatened interference with the opium trade by junks; and the Chinese opium dealer, being assured that his goods will be sold as well as held in the colony.

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SPANISH OPERATIONS IN SULU.

TAKING OF THE CITY OF COTABATO.

The British North Borneo Herald of the 1st May contains the following translation of a despatch from the Spanish authorities in Cotabato, dated the 28th of April.

The Spanish troops, who have been sent to the city of Cotabato, have been successful in taking the city of Cotabato, and the Spanish troops, who have been sent to the city of Cotabato, have been successful in taking the city of Cotabato.

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most amiable, and for the moment it seemed as if the war were clean through. But, strange to say, the only cause for the war was the fact that the Spanish troops, who have been sent to the city of Cotabato, have been successful in taking the city of Cotabato.

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friendly State which deserved much better treatment at English hands. Johore is a self-governing section of the Malay Peninsula, adjoining our Straits Settlements. The Malacca Sultan, who is a prince of great energy and sagacity, who aims at making his rule useful to his subjects and the Malay race at large, has always been a good neighbour to us, and his loyalty has been again and again officially recognized by the British Government. He has always been a good neighbour to us, and his loyalty has been again and again officially recognized by the British Government.

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